

SECRET

① → TREVOR JONES

Registry No.
MHG-451MEMORANDUMXARZ -
29 May 45

To: DH/001

From: FB/009

LIAISON REQUEST RE

Subject: Japanese Scorched Earth Tactics in the Philippines.

Sometime ago at the request of (Lt. Col.) Trevor Jones, G-1, Force 136, C.E.A.C., we made an inquiry through R. & A. for information concerning the "Scorched Earth" policy practiced by the Japanese in the Philippine Islands. A very general report of little value was forwarded to this office via Cora Du Boise from Claire Holt of the Washington office of R. & A. This report was transmitted to Col. Trevor Jones, who has asked for a more complete report. He states that he is particularly interested in:

- (a) Targets in order of priority.
- (b) Types of demolitions used.
- (c) Ingenuity, i.e., anti-removal gadgets, concealment, camouflage, etc.
- (d) Whether sabotage in harbours was spontaneous or planned in detail; i.e., was shipping sunk in the "right" places - were obstacles at quaysides sunk, fastened, fitted with demolitions in a manner equal to the ingenuity shown by the Germans in France.
- (e) To what extent was any American Counter-Scorch policy successful.

Col. Trevor Jones is an important person in this theater and it is expected that we will be working closely with this Force 136. The information he requests, we believe, will also be of interest to C.E.A.C. in this theater. We would appreciate it a great deal if you will cause someone in the X-2 Research Office to follow this request up more carefully and obtain from the files of R. & A., and also from M.I.S. and other sources, as much information on the "Scorched Earth Policy" as is presently obtainable. It is requested further that this be shown preference.

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